

# Letters From the Little Ones Overwhelm Santa Claus

## Blunders in the Kitchen

About the most common blunder, it seems, is to mistake something or other for another article very much like it. For instance, one girl made an Indian maize cake—colloquially known as a "Johnny cake"—for afternoon tea.

She was most anxious to make it a success, and sure enough when she took it out of the oven it had risen so high that she felt mightily proud of her handiwork.

But, alas! When it came to be cut it was discovered that instead of a crushed meal she had used sawdust, a tin of which stood on the same shelf!

Rather like this is the story the woman who made a fruit cake, which, when it came to table, was so hard that it was almost impossible to cut it.

An investigation of the harder disclosed the alarming fact that she had used plaster of Paris instead of flour!

Starch, too, has been put into pastry instead of corn flour, and soap used in some cakes in mistake for desiccated coconut. And in neither case was the mistake discovered until the dish was actually tasted.

## Culious Stuffing.

Most amusing is the story of the girl who cooked a duck for the first time.

"Mrs. Boston's" instructions were followed religiously, and when the bird came to table it looked beautifully brown and tempting.

But the stuffing! There was certainly something wrong there, though nobody could quite make out what was the matter with it.

Not till some time afterward was it discovered that she had mistaken some daffodil bulbs, which her brother had put in the larder for safety, for onions!

The following, too, is rather funny:

"We cooked a ham the other day, skinning it and putting on the raspings in the usual way. But when it came to be eaten we were astonished to find how gritty it was. It was then discovered that we had put bird sand on instead of raspings."

All sorts of things can easily be mistaken for baking powder.

## Bogus Baking-Powder.

Powdered alum, for instance, was on one occasion put in some dumplings, the cook being quite under the impression that she was using baking powder. Not only was the taste horrible, but the dumplings were so hard that the children played ball with them.

Magnesia, too, was used in the crust of a potato-pie, with dire effect.

But perhaps the most amusing instance of this sort is the tale of the girl who put Epsom salts into meat-pie instead of baking-powder.

Marvelous to relate, the pie was eaten and enjoyed, and did them all good!

## Queer Coffee.

Still more amusing is the story of two boys.

The elder was ill in bed and his mother and sisters being out shopping, his brother was keeping him company.

The invalid having remarked that he would like a cup of coffee, the small brother volunteered to prepare it. So he went down to the kitchen, and taking a bottle of what he supposed to be coffee essence, made a steaming hot cup.

His brother thought the taste rather peculiar, thought it seemed rather funny coffee, but made no remark.

When the mother returned the younger boy in high glee told her what a nice cup of coffee he had made.

"But we haven't any coffee in the house," she exclaimed. "Whatever have you done?"

So he showed her the bottle.

"Why, good gracious!" she said. "That is not coffee essence, it's brown-ling."

No wonder the coffee tasted peculiar.

## Does Man Avoid Beauty?

A question is asked.

It's a silly question left over.

But here it is in all its stupidity.

Do men like exceedingly beautiful women?

It sounds like the breathings of a plain woman.

One writer hints that men merely uphold beauty as an institution.

This writer seems to think it is necessary to our pride like Independence Hall.

A woman argues that men are seldom seen with beauties of the superlative type.

This might possibly be due to the fact that there are not enough superlative beauties to go round.

At any rate, one would hesitate to wager anything of importance that Mr. Man would go out of his way to avoid beauty.

## Afternoon Teas

Dr. Holmes is said to have described them: "Giggie, gabble, gobble, and git!"

"The Vampire"—New Style

(With profound apologies to Rudyard Kipling.)

Miss Elizabeth A. C. White, "high priestess of fashion," has just announced that straight lined hipless gowns will be the rage. She says that women must lose their curves if they wish to be strictly up to date.—News Item.

A fool there was and she made her prayer

(Even as you and I)

To the dame who says all girls are fair

Must lose their hips, not one, but the pair.

And the fool had a shape exceedingly rare

(Even as you and I).

Oh, the pounds men lose who pick and choose

The sure winner that never lands

Are taught to the woe girls undergo—

Undergo 'cause Miss White says so—

Fulfilling Shape's demands.

A fool there was and her clothes hung straight

(Even as you and I)

On a form once shaped like the figure eight.

But now more like a lemon crate

(For curves must go when styles dictate)

(Even as you know why).

Oh, the weight she lost and the mate she lost.

And the lines of her figure "grand."

Were sacrificed to Fashion's Cause.

(The cause of all dressmakers' wars).

Which man can't understand.

The fool tripped on in her foolish pride

(Even as you and I).

And her heart was glad for she'd cast aside

The hips that "form" books now deride

(If she hadn't lost them, she'd have died).

'Tis why, Oh Lord, 'tis why?

For it isn't the curves nor the lack of curves

That make the figure "grand."

'Tis the pads they buy or do not buy.

That give to men the merry lie.

The lie they now understand.

—C. T. H., in the New York Evening Telegram.

## A Dainty Gown of Marquisette



—Design by May Mantou.

Marquisette is always a charming material, taking graceful lines and folds and it is deservedly popular. Here is a gown made of it in one of the new blue shades combined with fluted net of deep cream color and trimmed with tucked silk and lace that is dyed to matching color. The blouse is one of the newer ones showing the much modified kimono sleeves and giving a glimpse of effect while in reality it is made all in one. The sleeves of lace are very charming, very pretty and very fashionable, but if something a little less elaborate is desired they could be made to match the blouse, while for the yoke almost any pretty lace or contrasting material is appropriate. The five-gored skirt is simply laid in overlapping plaits at the upper and takes just the long sweeping lines that are so well liked just now and that are always so charmingly graceful and becoming. Marquisette is a favorite and is lovely in almost all its colors, but there are a whole host of soft, thin materials that could be utilized for the design with perfect success. Crepe de chine is well liked, lousine silks are much in use and voile is a standard and favorite that never must be omitted from any list of materials for indoor gowns. For the medium size will be required, for the blouse 2½ yards of material 21, 2½ yards 27 or 1½ yards 44 inches wide; for the kimono 1½ yards 18 inches wide; for the skirt 12½ yards 21, 9½ yards 27 or 7 yards 44 inches wide.

## Small Hats in Favor

It seems now as though small hats were trying to take the place of the large shapes, which, however, still hold the field. The small position shapes, placed on much fluffed-out hair, are very high and trimmed with very high panaches or puffs of aigrette.

A waltz shape, raised behind the brim slightly rolled, is trimmed with three feather tips placed at the back, with a small cache-peigne of three bright-colored roses; it is made of this felt, lined with black panne.

A small Louis XVI shape, in silver-gray, lined with dark gray, is trimmed with a wide galloon ribbon, embroidered with silver, crossing over the hat, and a large bunch of roses in mixed colors placed at the back.

A small cloche, fitting well on the head, is raised on one side, made of dark tulle or blue velvet, draped; the crown is of vision fur, and it is trimmed with a large fan of feathers placed low on the side, but very voluminous.

A huge Marie Antoinette beret shape is made of dark green velvet; the brim is of stretched taffeta, lined and pleated in wide plaits, and this brim is almost on level with the beret, separated from it by a scarf of mole-colored mousseline de soie, knotted on one side at the stem of a fan of light shaded brown tulle. There is a wide low barrette all around.

A very pretty hat for morning wear has a flat brim of dark reddish-brown taffeta; the crown is made of large choux of fringed taffeta, green and brown. The fringe forms a fan-like, which lightens up the hat.

A small hat raised on one side in mousquetaire style is lined with black satin; blue velvet ribbon crosses the hat, and ends in the midst of a large pouf of gray marabout, placed on the right side. The hat itself is of sapphire felt, lined with black satin.

## Daily Thought

Each person has two lives, one of which is known to the world, one of which is hidden.—Jan MacLaren.

## LOCAL MENTION.

The Goodness of Schneider's "Malt" Bread is appreciated in more and more households continually. No other wheat product combines so much deliciousness and available nourishment. Old and young enjoy it—thrive on it. Place "Malt" Bread on your table three times a day. At your grocer's, so long.

Sweet scented skin, smooth as satin made by Satin skin cream and powder. 2c.

Wonders for children's Christmas. Gould's

Gould's Wonder Store, 421 9th.

Toys, favors, tinsel, stocking gifts, etc.

Nice Table Potatoes 80c Bushel, De-livered. C. M. Pugh & Bro., 346 La. ave. n.w.

1204 3rd St. C. A. Muddiman & Co., 615 12th.

Miller Oil Heaters. Gas Radiators.

307 Matted Tree, Cuticura Book on Skin Diseases.

## SAINT NICK'S MAIL FLOODS THE TIMES; REQUESTS UNIQUE

Santa Claus letters continue to pour into The Times office. Struggling authors have penned their wants and again expressed their love for old St. Nick, and incidentally indicated what would gladden their hearts most on Christmas morning.

The addresses on the letters have occasioned some mirth. They run from "The Jolly Old Spirit" to "Dear, Good Kind Kris 'Krinkle.'" More than half the letters are minus stamps, the writers evidently being in too great a hurry or believing that the jolly old spirit stood in well with the postoffice and that no stamps were necessary on his mail.

The wants of the children of the city seem reasonably small, and Santa Claus feels confident that each will get what her or his little heart craves most.

## What They Want.

Some of the letters received today follow:

My Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy eight years old and I cannot write very good so I thought I would tell you a few things what I want. Please bring me a teddy bear suit, 1 pair boots, and pair red kid gloves, please bring me a nice heavy overcoat. Please bring me two nice story books and games. Oh! yes I want a nice truck and engine and a set of steam cars. My address is Raymond Francis Harper, 337 P street northwest.

## Ball-Bearing Skates.

Dear Santa Claus: I am very anxious to have a pair of ball-bearing skates and a teddy bear. I have been reading the letters that were published in the paper and I have been wanting to write. When I get up Christmas morning I hope to find them both. I saw your advertisement in the paper. Dear Santa, I think you are very kind if you send me these things. Being you are coming the 25th of December, I hope I will be successful in getting them. I hope you will not forget these things. I know that you will be tired Christmas eve night. From your friend you visit every Christmas. I live at 123 W street northwest. Very truly yours, ALBERTA PARKER.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Don't forget my sisters.

"My Dear Santa Claus: I'm a little boy only five years old, and I want to ask you to please bring me a rocking horse, a automobile, water pistol, and a watch and chain, and

"Dear Santa Claus: I want a nice teddy bear for Blanche, Richard and I. This is my best writing. ALICE GENIVA PHILIPPE, 2123 9th St. N. W.

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## A "Singer" Sews for Generations

So does the Wheeler & Wilson. These machines last for a lifetime.

One delighted owner of a Singer writes: "I am a young woman of twenty, and I am now sewing on the identical Singer which my grandmother used when making my mother's trousseau." Instances like these are by no means rare where the Singer or Wheeler & Wilson is concerned.

## Singer Sewing Machines

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## A Few Suggestions For Christmas Shopper's

## Silk Petticoats

\$10 Silk Petticoats, \$7.98

Made of excellent quality of taffeta, in black, brown, navy, gun metal, and light shades, suitable for evening wear. Deep circular flounce, with rows of shirring and fine tucks, with rose quilting on bottom; cut full width. Lengths, 40, 41, 42.

\$7.50 Silk Petticoats, \$5.48